(b) The National Programme for Control of Blindness is being implemented as a 100 per cent Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme. The Programme envisages provision of eye care services through mobile units, establishment of up-graded Ophthalmology Departments in Medical Colleges, Development of District Hospitals in respect of Ophthalmic wing, well equipped Primary Health Centres, Regional Ophthalmic Institutee and Ophthalmic Assistants Training schools for training of Ophthalmic assistants to be posted at Primary Health Centres and District Hospitals.

A scheme to prevent blindness caused by Vitamin 'A' deficiency among children through oral administration of massive dose of vitamin 'A' is also in operation. This scheme is being implemented in all States/U.Ts.

(c) A provision of Rs. 7.50 crores has been made for the year 1984-85.

(d) As per sample surveys carried out by Indian Council of Medical Research in 1973-75 in different parts of the country, the number of blind is estimated at 9 million which is approximately 1.4 per cent of the population. The Programme aims at reducing the incidence of blindness to 0.3 per cent by 2000 A.D.

Project for development of Marathwada Region

1625. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received a letter from the Chief Minister of Maharashtra suggesting to include the Manmad-Mudkhed (Broad-Gauge conversion), Propect-Manmad-Aurangabad-Parbhani-Parli-Vaijnath in the 25-Point Programme for development of the Marathwada Region;

(b) whether the Chief Minister has also asked for an increase in the provision to Rs. 10 crores;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what further action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHARY): (a) to (c) Letter has been received from Chief Minister of Maharashtra mentioning that the project of conversion of M.G. line from Manmad to Parli-Vaijnath into B. G. has been included in the 25 point programme of development of the Marathwada region, and has asked the Railways to provide Rs. 10 crores for this work during 1984-85.

(d) Due to constraint of resources, it has been possible to allot Rs. 4.01 crores only for this work during 1984-85.

Registration of Pharmacists in Delhi

1626. SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the number of 'qualified persons' who have been registered as pharmacists in Delhi by the Pharmacy Council during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI): 773 persons.

Enforcement of Section 42 of the Pharmacy Act

1627. SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state whether Government propose to enforce Section 42 of the Pharmacy Act 1948 during the current year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI): According to the second proviso to Section 42 of the Pharmacy Act, 1948, that Section 42 shall take effect from 1-9-1984.

Increasing the quota edible oils, rice and polyester cloth to Gujarat

1628. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has urged the Central Government to increase the quota of edible oils, rice, polyester and controlled-cloth; and

(b) whether the Central Government have agreed to the request; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) The position with respect to demand by the Government of Gujarat regarding edible oils, rice, and polyester and controlled cloth is as under:-

Edible oils: Gujarat Government had asked for an allocation of 11,500 tonnes per month of palmolein. As a result, the allocation was raised to 7,000 tonnes from July, 1984 against the allocation of 5,000 tonnes made during June, 1984. Proposal from the Government of Gujarat for additional allocation for the remaining months of the current oil year i.e. September and October, 1984 is under examination.

Rice: Against the demand by the Government of Gujarat for at least 15,000 tonnes of rice per month, an allocation of 7,500 tonnes is being made. Allocation of rice to various States including Gujarat is made on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors. These allocations from the Central Pool are only supplemental to the open market availability.

Polyester and controlled cloth: Gujarat Government has not asked for increased quota either for polyester cotton blended or cotton controlled cloth.

Colleges awarding Degree/Diploma in Pharmacy

1629. SHRI K. CHATHUNNI MASTER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of Colleges recognised for awarding diploma/degree in pharmacy in the country; and

(b) what is the number of students admitted to these courses in each year during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (MISS KUMUD BEN M. JOSHI): (a) Number of Institutions imparting training in Diploma in Pharmacy 170 (number's detail in Annexure I).

2. Number of institutions imparting Training in B. Pharma degree in Pharmacy 25 (number's detail in Annexure II).

(*See* Appendix CXXXI, Annexure No. 36 for I and II).

(b) Diploma in Pharmacy:

Year	Number
1981-82	4842
1982-83	5596
1983-84	7247

Regarding admission of students in B. Pharmacy (Degree course) during the last three years information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

वैद्य विशारद आदि की डिग्रियों का दिया जाना

1630. **श्री राम पूजन पटेल :**
श्री कैलाशपति मिश्र :

क्या **स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन प्रयाग, उत्तर प्रदेश द्वारा "वैद्य विशारद" और "आयुर्वेद रत्न" डिग्रियां अभी भी प्रदान की जा रही हैं, हालांकि संगत नियम के अधीन ये 1967 तक ही मान्य थी ; यदि हां, तो 1967 के बाद कितने छात्रों ने ये डिग्रियां प्राप्त कीं ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि अनुभव के आधार पर किसी संस्था/संगठन द्वारा पंजीयन की अनुमति देना गैर-कानूनी है ;

(ग) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) और (ख) के उत्तर "हां" हों तो केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना के अधीन आयुर्वेद